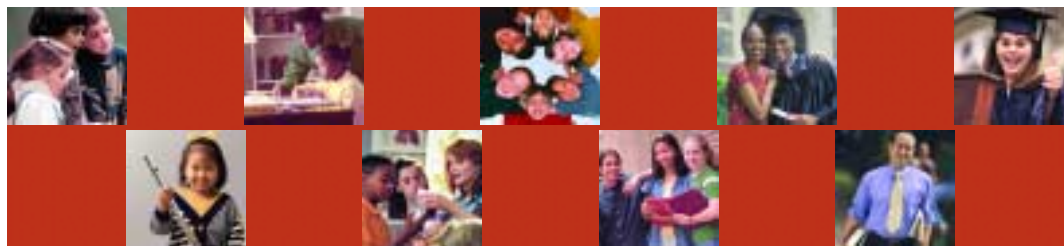


the condition of education 2003



INDICATOR 5

Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2003*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2003*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.sap?pubid=2003067>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

Suggested Citation:

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2003*, NCES 2003-067, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2003.

Undergraduate Education

Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

Unlike the 1980s and 1990s, undergraduate enrollment in 4-year institutions is projected to increase at a faster rate than undergraduate enrollment in 2-year institutions in the next 10 years. Women's undergraduate enrollment is expected to continue increasing at a faster rate than men's.

Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions has generally increased in the past three decades, and it is projected to increase throughout the next 10 years. These increases have been accompanied by changes in the attendance status of students, the type of institution attended, and the proportion of students who are women. The number of students enrolled both part time and full time, the number of students at 2- and 4-year institutions, and the number of male and female undergraduates are projected to reach a new high each year from 2003 to 2012.

In the past, more undergraduate students were enrolled full time than part time in degree-granting 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions. This pattern is expected to continue in the future. In the 1970s, part-time undergraduate enrollment increased at a faster rate than full-time undergraduate enrollment, but the majority of students were still enrolled full time. During the 1980s, growth slowed for both groups. In the 1990s, full-time undergraduate enrollment increased at a faster rate, while part-time undergraduate enrollment remained fairly

constant. In the present decade, full-time undergraduate enrollment is expected to increase at a faster rate than part-time undergraduate enrollment (see supplemental table 5-1).

More undergraduate students attended 4-year institutions than 2-year institutions. After strong growth in the 1970s, the rate of increase in undergraduate enrollment at 2-year institutions slowed in the 1980s and slowed still further in the 1990s. However, it is expected to increase again in the present decade. Four-year undergraduate enrollment has increased over the past three decades and is expected to increase at a faster rate than undergraduate enrollment in 2-year institutions in the next 10 years.

In 1978, the number of undergraduate women in degree-granting 2- and 4-year institutions exceeded the number of undergraduate men. Since the 1970s, women's undergraduate enrollment has increased faster than men's. In the next 10 years, men's undergraduate enrollment is projected to increase, but women's undergraduate enrollment is projected to grow at a faster rate.

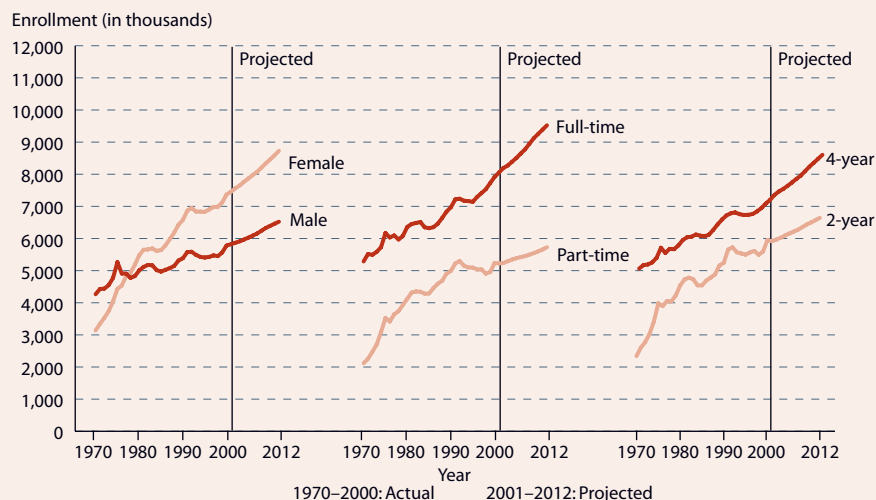
NOTE: Projections are based on the middle alternative assumptions concerning the economy. For more information, see NCES 2002–030. Data for 1999 were imputed using alternative procedures. For more information, see NCES 2002–130, pp. 509–510.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. (2002). *Digest of Education Statistics 2001* (NCES 2002–130), table 188, and *Projections of Education Statistics to 2012* (NCES 2002–030), tables 16, 18, and 19. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1969–1986 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities," and 1987–2000 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:87–00).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 3, 8
Supplemental Table 5-1



UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions (in thousands), by sex, attendance status, and type of institution, with projections: Fall 1970–2012



Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

Table 5-1. Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions (in thousands), by sex, attendance status and type of institution, with projections: Fall 1970–2012

Year	Total	Sex		Attendance status		Type of institution	
		Male	Female	Full-time	Part-time	4-year	2-year
1970	7,376	4,254	3,122	5,280	2,096	5,057	2,319
1971	7,743	4,418	3,325	5,512	2,231	5,164	2,579
1972	7,941	4,429	3,512	5,488	2,453	5,185	2,756
1973	8,261	4,538	3,723	5,580	2,681	5,249	3,012
1974	8,798	4,765	4,033	5,726	3,072	5,394	3,404
1975	9,679	5,257	4,422	6,169	3,510	5,709	3,970
1976	9,429	4,902	4,527	6,030	3,399	5,546	3,883
1977	9,717	4,897	4,820	6,094	3,623	5,674	4,043
1978	9,691	4,766	4,925	5,967	3,724	5,663	4,028
1979	9,998	4,821	5,178	6,080	3,919	5,781	4,217
1980	10,475	5,000	5,475	6,362	4,113	5,949	4,526
1981	10,755	5,109	5,646	6,449	4,306	6,039	4,716
1982	10,825	5,170	5,655	6,484	4,341	6,053	4,772
1983	10,846	5,158	5,688	6,514	4,332	6,123	4,723
1984	10,618	5,007	5,611	6,348	4,270	6,087	4,531
1985	10,597	4,962	5,635	6,320	4,277	6,066	4,531
1986	10,798	5,018	5,780	6,352	4,446	6,118	4,680
1987	11,046	5,068	5,978	6,463	4,584	6,270	4,776
1988	11,317	5,138	6,179	6,642	4,674	6,442	4,875
1989	11,743	5,311	6,432	6,841	4,902	6,592	5,151
1990	11,959	5,380	6,579	6,976	4,983	6,719	5,240
1991	12,439	5,571	6,868	7,221	5,218	6,787	5,652
1992	12,538	5,583	6,955	7,244	5,293	6,815	5,723
1993	12,324	5,484	6,840	7,179	5,144	6,758	5,566
1994	12,263	5,422	6,840	7,169	5,094	6,734	5,529
1995	12,232	5,401	6,831	7,145	5,086	6,739	5,493
1996	12,327	5,421	6,906	7,299	5,028	6,764	5,563
1997	12,451	5,469	6,982	7,419	5,032	6,845	5,606
1998	12,437	5,446	6,991	7,539	4,898	6,948	5,489
1999	12,681	5,559	7,122	7,735	4,946	7,089	5,592
2000	13,155	5,778	7,377	7,923	5,232	7,207	5,948
Projected ¹							
2001	13,278	5,818	7,459	8,060	5,217	7,362	5,916
2002	13,432	5,864	7,567	8,201	5,230	7,470	5,962
2003	13,566	5,910	7,657	8,281	5,286	7,547	6,019
2004	13,736	5,965	7,772	8,398	5,339	7,646	6,090
2005	13,901	6,024	7,877	8,520	5,381	7,749	6,152
2006	14,072	6,088	7,984	8,657	5,415	7,860	6,212
2007	14,238	6,154	8,084	8,789	5,449	7,965	6,273
2008	14,457	6,241	8,217	8,965	5,493	8,102	6,355
2009	14,681	6,328	8,352	9,139	5,541	8,245	6,436
2010	14,868	6,394	8,474	9,273	5,595	8,367	6,501
2011	15,063	6,460	8,602	9,407	5,655	8,493	6,570
2012	15,263	6,523	8,740	9,539	5,724	8,617	6,646

¹Projections based on reported data through 2000 and middle alternative assumptions concerning the economy. For more information on projections, see NCES 2002–030.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Data for 1999 were imputed using alternative procedures. For more information, see NCES 2002–130, pp. 509–510. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, see *supplemental note 3*. For the classification of postsecondary institutions, see *supplemental note 8*.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. (2002). *Digest of Education Statistics 2001* (NCES 2002–130), table 188, and *Projections of Education Statistics to 2012* (NCES 2002–030), tables 16, 18, and 19. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1969–1986 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities," and 1987–2000 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:87–00).